

Mastercraft Kitchens by Healey & Empower Factory Productivity & Job Scheduling Software - Case Study

(Palmerston North, New Zealand)(05/09/2016)

Empower - For progressive Joiners, Engineers and Other Manufacturers.



"We have achieved a 20% increase in our factory productivity using Empower Factory Productivity & Job Scheduling Software"

Core Products Manufactured (or Core Business)	Kitchen Joinery
% Production is custom made - one off designs (each job different to the last)	100%
Any Key Background Information	

# Factory Floor Staff	10
# Total Staff	20
Annual Revenue (approx)	4m
Factory and Office Size m2	3 buildings totalling 1200 square metres
# of CNCs	2
Geography Served	Lower North Island
Staff Times on Jobs Recording prior to Empower	Staff filled out manual time sheets and these were manually recorded on an excel spreadsheet which we used for back costing.
Years in Business	13
Associations and any positions held	Members of Master Joiners and Future Proof Building.
Staff Groups Tracked on Empower	Factory floor staff
Years using Empower	
# PCs on the Factory Floor with Empower on	3
# Of our Managers using Empower	3
Estimated Productivity Gains using Empower	We have achieved a 20% increase in our factory productivity using Empower Factory Productivity & Job Scheduling Software

Key Points we have found Empower Factory Productivity & Job Scheduling Software:

Empower Factory System Staff Use of Empower Software

1. It took us a few years to embrace the system and in the first few years just used it as a tool to replace manual job sheets without analysing the information it offered. During this time we still saw noticeable improvements in the time taken by staff solely because they could now see what time was allowed against what they were taking.
2. Over the last few years we have been taking the info and analysing downtime and rework and this is where a largest increase in productivity has come from.
3. Being able to pinpoint areas where a certain staff member might be struggling is invaluable. It gives us the opportunity to work with that staff member to improve their performance or change systems to improve their productivity.

Management Considerations

1. You need your staff to fully commit to the system for it to work properly
2. Its definitely worth contracting David Lawrence to help set the system up for you and then again to review how its working. We still have significant work to do with our system as there are still many areas where we are not fully utilising the systems and reports
3. I have no regrets in purchasing Empower but do regret not fully committing to it soon enough to fully benefit from the information produced. I was and still am guilty of not nominating one person to look after Empower and produce the weekly reports for my managers to analyse and discuss with the staff

Anyone is welcome to phone me to discuss Empower

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Please forward this email to someone you know who owns or is management in any Joinery, Engineering or other Manufacturing business throughout Australia or New Zealand. Particularly to those people and businesses who might be struggling to manage their jobs and their labour or struggling to retain previous or expected profit levels.

